

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Smith & Nephew announces international launch of new ALLEVYN[◇] Gentle and ALLEVYN[◇] Gentle Border wound dressings

Addition of new products to the ALLEVYN[◇] range provides a complete customer solution in advanced wound care management

Hull, (U.K), December 12 2007

The Advanced Wound Management business unit of Smith & Nephew (LSE: SN; NYSE:SNN) announced today that it is launching two new ALLEVYN products to enhance its existing range of progressive wound care products.

ALLEVYN Gentle and ALLEVYN Gentle Border combine the superior moisture handling of the ALLEVYN range with the unique benefits of silicone gel and soft-gel adhesives, helping to deliver the optimal environment for the promotion of faster wound healing, whilst simultaneously maximising comfort and minimising pain for the patient.

Commenting on the launch, Joe Woody, President, Smith & Nephew Advanced Wound Management, said: "Following the successful launch of ALLEVYN Ag in September, the addition of the ALLEVYN Gentle products to the brand allows us to provide a complete range of foam dressings to our customers, ensuring our continued success in this segment of the market. These two new products will add a new level of versatility and breadth of application to the ALLEVYN range to support our customers in providing the best possible patient care."

ALLEVYN Gentle Border is a silicone gel adhesive hydrocellular foam dressing, designed to minimise pain to the patient and trauma to the wound at dressing change with longer wear time for patients with fragile skin; ALLEVYN Gentle is a soft-gel adhesive hydrocellular foam dressing designed to facilitate easier application when secondary retention is required and minimises pain on removal for patients with fragile skin.

"The new ALLEVYN range will further enhance the care that Healthcare Professionals can provide to patients with problematic wounds. The ALLEVYN Gentle and Gentle Border variants should help overcome the challenges in minimising pain for patients with fragile skin including patients with fragile healing burn wounds," said Simon Booth, Burn Researcher, Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead.

Enquiries

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Notes for Editors

About ALLEVYN

The ALLEVYN product range helps to facilitate healing by reducing the risk of maceration (softening and whitening of the skin that increases the risk of infection) and maintaining an optimal moist wound environment. ALLEVYN offers the clinician a clinically proven range of dressings that are cost effective both for the clinician and the buyer. With the addition of ALLEVYN Gentle and ALLEVYN Gentle Border to the range, ALLEVYN now expands a clinician's capacity to minimise pain, maximise patient comfort and optimise healing for more patients in more situations.

ALLEVYN now further simplifies customer choice, by providing a new, unique and powerful combination of benefits through each of the four product groups in its newly defined and extended range. ALLEVYN has now combined the proven strengths of its triple-action ALLEVYN technology with a new level of versatility and breadth of application.

The three new products in the range are:

ALLEVYN Ag – All the benefits of ALLEVYN, with the addition of anti-microbial silver for use on wounds with suspected infection or infected wounds treated as per local protocol

ALLEVYN Gentle Border – All the benefits of ALLEVYN with the addition of a silicone gel adhesive for use on patients with fragile skin where secondary retention is not used

ALLEVYN Gentle – All the benefits of ALLEVYN with the addition of a soft gel adhesive for use on patients with fragile skin when secondary retention is required



About Smith & Nephew

Smith & Nephew Advanced Wound Management is headquartered in the United Kingdom. The organisation has manufacturing centres in the United Kingdom and Largo, FL.

Smith & Nephew is a global medical technology business, specialising in Orthopaedic Reconstruction, Orthopaedic Trauma and Clinical Therapies, Endoscopy and Advanced Wound Management products. Smith & Nephew is a global leader in arthroscopy and advanced wound management and is one of the leading global orthopaedics companies.

Smith & Nephew is dedicated to helping improve people's lives. The Company prides itself on the strength of its relationships with its surgeons and professional healthcare customers, with whom its name is synonymous with high standards of performance, innovation and trust. The Company operates in 32 countries around the world. Annual sales in 2006 were nearly \$2.8 billion.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains certain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the US Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. In particular, statements regarding expected revenue growth and trading margins discussed under "Outlook" are forward-looking statements as are discussions of our product pipeline. These statements, as well as the phrases "aim", "plan", "intend", "anticipate", "well-placed", "believe", "estimate", "expect", "target", "consider" and similar expressions, are generally intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors (including, but not limited to, the outcome of litigation, claims and regulatory approvals) that could cause the actual results, performance or achievements of Smith & Nephew, or industry results, to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Please refer to the documents that Smith & Nephew has filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission under the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including Smith & Nephew's most recent annual report on Form 20F, for a discussion of certain of these factors.

All forward-looking statements in this press release are based on information available to Smith & Nephew as of the date hereof. All written or oral forward-looking statements attributable to Smith & Nephew or any person acting on behalf of Smith & Nephew are expressly qualified in their entirety by the foregoing. Smith & Nephew does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement contained herein to reflect any change in Smith & Nephew's expectation with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.

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